

Energy Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of meeting: August 19, 2021

Attendees: Heather Billings, Kerry Koskinen, Isaiah Grigos. Kevin Keena from car, Doug Hurley, Kelly Brown remote

Agenda items:

- **Minutes Approval:** Minutes from meeting held on July 15, 2021, were approved.

- **Meet with Kelly Brown of the MA DOER to discuss future Green Communities Act energy reduction projects:**

Discussed

1. Project applications are due October 8, 2021
2. \$200k max grant award.
3. Application has a list of many examples of approved projects.
 - a. Try for less, but larger, projects.
 - i. 5-6 projects are reasonable.
4. Approved projects do not need to be completed in one year.
 - a. Many communities use 2 years to get projects completed.
 - b. All projects must be complete to apply for more grant money.
5. The grant table in the application is important and looked at most closely.
 - a. Approximate date of completion of each project should be realistic.
 - i. Note pandemic realisms, like access to buildings and materials availability.

Kevin spoke to explain Energy Conservation, Inc. [ECI] audits. There are large scale lighting projects already audited. The school controls system needs updating and isn't really working so estimating usage and savings is an issue. This project might cost around \$50k. Kelly noted many communities have issues with outdated equipment and the updating is typically awarded a grant. The Westminster town hall has had an extensive HVAC analysis, but there are no costs for updating and repair.

Who might price and/ or carry out the controls projects work? Tim Netto did the analysis. We haven't been given any further information beyond the analysis of HVAC conditions.

Schools- American Refrigeration is the existing service contractor for schools and who has given a quote for updates. We would like ECI to manage the project.

Kelly said using ECI adds cost but eliminates our doing RFPs and bids for work. Anything over 100k need to go out to bid. Noted that the EAC has done project coordination while ECI does the paperwork.

Kelly noted we need to look closely at the guidance from the application.

Kelly noted we need to be in close contact with utilities to make sure we have the correct utility incentives. Unutil, specifically Joe Van Gombos, needs to be involved asap for any controls work where natural gas is a fuel.

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